

The University of
Texas at San
Antonio

POLICE
DEPARTMENT

Runner Beat

Protecting Your Future... Today

A Campus Safety Newsletter from the University Police Department



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www.utsa.edu/utsapd

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Spotlight on Access Services

Most of us take for granted that set of keys we have in our jacket, our purse or the ones hanging on our belt until the time comes when we need them and they are not there. Keys and locks play a very important role in our everyday lives. We use them to secure our homes before we depart for work and then once again to open our office or place of business. At the end of the day we reverse the process ending the day by ensuring our home is secure before retiring for the night.

The oldest known lock was found by archeologists in the Khorsabad palace ruins near Nineveh. The lock was estimated to be 4,000 years old. It was a forerunner to a pin tumbler type of lock and a common Egyptian lock for the time. This lock worked using a large wooden bolt to secure a door, which had a slot with several holes in its upper surface. The holes were filled with wooden pegs that prevented the bolt from being opened.

We have made a lot of progress since the days of wooden locks as we now have electronic locks that can be programmed at the push of a button many miles away. Most of us still depend on the old fashioned mechanical keys, but even they have gone through many design changes making them more difficult to defeat. Theft is by far the most common crime on our campus and we have

discovered that in many cases, when responding to reports of theft that the victim failed to lock/secure their property making it easy for thieves to help themselves.

The UTSA Police Department Access Services team is responsible for the enormous task of providing locks and keys to thousands of UTSA employees. In addition, they perform maintenance and respond to problems involving the tens of thousands of locks and doors in use every day. For example; the HSS building has over 800 doors and that is only one of over 30+ buildings on campus. In addition to the hundreds of card readers on campus they also program and service over 800 Locknetics devices that are slowly being replaced by the more user-friendly DSX system.

David De Los Santos, the Director of Security Systems, oversees the Access Services department and works diligently to ensure his team provides the customer service expected of the UTSA community. David attends all of the pre-construction meeting ensuring that the appropriate type of locks are added to the construction plans and he also ensures adequate security, to include security cameras are included in all new construction projects. Each member of the Access Services team specializes in a particular field of their trade. Mike



Top Row (L to R): Tomas Fuentes, Henry Verde, Mike Steabman.
Bottom Row (L to R): David De Los Santos, Helen White

Steabman manages and programs the DSX system. Tomas Fuentes manages and programs the Locknetics software and locks. Helen White processes all key work requests and she is responsible for the administrative paperwork for the department. Henry Verde performs installations and maintenance of all lock systems throughout the campus.

Each member of the Access Services team understands the importance of their job and how critical their services are. Because their job is one of the few that have an impact on the entire UTSA community rather than one single area, their services are always in high demand. Realizing this, each team member strives to complete all outstanding work requests in a timely manner. It's important that all work requests are submitted by the authorized person from that department/division and that the request contains the correct information. Security is priority number one with Access Services. If you have any questions regarding Access Services please feel free to contact them at 458-6486 and they will be happy to assist you.

Road Safety Tips for Your Thanksgiving Holiday Travels

The Thanksgiving Holiday traditionally features some of the highest traffic volume of the year, which multiplies the potential for automobile accidents. As travelers hit the Texas highways, Texas Department of Public Safety troopers will be looking for drivers who are endangering themselves and others by breaking traffic laws. Troopers will be looking for violations such as speeding, driving while intoxicated and drivers and passengers who are not wearing safety belts.

You should expect a large number of travelers on the road Wednesday through Sunday of the Thanksgiving period. UTSA-PD encourages drivers to leave themselves plenty of time to get where they are going and avoid bad driving habits that lead to road rage, such as not using turn signals, driving in the passing lane and tailgating, flashing lights or honking at other cars when unnecessary.

The Texas Department of Public Safety has a Motorists Helpline that was designed to assist motorists in

various times of need. Call toll free 1-800-525-5555 if your vehicle is disabled or you are stranded on the side of any Texas highway.

Motorists can also avoid being victims of highway emergencies by preparing for their trips, staying sober and buckling up all occupants. Travel preparation should include plenty of rest before departing, preparing the vehicle for potentially inclement weather, and adjusting driving behaviors for the traffic volume and road conditions.

Reference: www.txdps.state.tx.us & www.troopers.state.ny.us

UTSA PD Officers Honored for Hurricane Ike Service



(L to R) Director Slettebo, Ofc. Vega, Ofc. Criswell, Ofc. Gallegos, Ofc. Torres, Acting Chief Pena

(Photo from Capt. Kiley)

In a recent ceremony, Director of UT System Police John Slettebo honored those UTSA PD officers who performed hurricane duty at UT Medical Branch in Galveston when Hurricane Ike made landfall.

In a ceremony on August 27, 2009 Officers Jacob Criswell, Manuel Gallegos, Daniel Torres and Jovany Vega were given Certificates of Recognition for their service in Galveston. They also received a unique service ribbon for their uniforms. Hurricane Ike was a Category 2 hurricane that damaged many parts of Galveston Island including the University of Texas

Medical Branch campus on September 13, 2008.

Due to the heavy damage inflicted on UTMB, the UTMB Police Department requested assistance from all UT component schools. The UTSA Police Department sent four officers over a two week time period to supplement the UTMB police patrol shifts. Officers Vega, Gallegos, Torres and Criswell worked 12 hour shifts to ensure buildings were secure and no looting occurred throughout the night. Officers worked night shift and day shift depending on the needs on the campus.

"While at UTMB, I received many thanks and appreciation from the UTMB police officers and guards and from the hospital staff" said Officer Vega. "(They were) very friendly people despite the devastation of their homes and lives."

All the UTSA officers that were sent to Galveston remarked that assisting the City of Galveston and UTMB in a law enforcement capacity during the hurricane recovery brought a sense of pride and personal satisfaction.

References: Officers Vega and Torres, e-mail from Capt. Sonego

WELCOME

Welcome to the UTSA Police Department!

Jason Sejd is a new guard and Lloyd Lopez is a lateral police officer who retired from SAPD. Both will start in November.

Welcome to UTSA-PD!

Employee Kudos: Thanks to Guards Steele, Crist and Tschudy for assisting at a vehicle accident on James Bauerle Blvd. and UTSA Blvd. They helped with a potentially life threatening situation. **Way to go!**

Crime Prevention Tip

Don't use a cheap lock to protect your bike. The best way to use a U lock is to put the U around an immovable object, push your bike up to the post such that the bars pass inside both the frame and rear wheel, and then place the front wheel and locking bar in place. Reference: bicyclesource.com



Picture: Google Images



UTSA-PD wants you to be informed about vehicle break-ins

(Photo: Google Images)

Burglary of Vehicle Prevention Tips

One type of property crime that seems to never go away is burglary of vehicles where a thief enters a car to steal items. Vehicle burglary is most often a crime of opportunity and sometimes our own carelessness often causes our vehicles to be broken into. So far for 2009, there have been 26 vehicle break-ins on UTSA campuses. Some of these car break-ins have happened in the parking lots of residential areas during the overnight hours. Most, however, happen during the daytime hours when most students and staff are on campus.

The main cause of vehicle burglaries is the placement of valuable items visible within the passenger compartment. Laptop computers, cellular phones, purses, briefcases and camera equipment are some of the most

frequently stolen items. This is attributed to how easily the property can be seen by potential thieves from outside of the vehicle. Once inside a vehicle, the burglar steals what he sees that is valuable and easy to take. He typically checks the glove compartment, middle console, under the seat and above the visor.

The UTSA Police Department would like to stress the importance in the value of prevention. By simply being cognizant and taking a few simple steps in securing your property, the chances of becoming a victim of property theft can be considerably reduced.

- Lock your vehicle and take your keys. Close all windows, including sunroofs. Install a good alarm.

- Remove visible items from your vehicle. Your car is not a great storage place. If you leave items visible in your car, you are a target. Take items with you or lock them in your trunk before arriving home or to a parking lot.

If you observe suspicious activity that makes you think someone is committing a crime, immediately call the UTSA Police Department at 210.458.4911. An officer will be dispatched to the location to determine if a crime is being committed.

Don't wait to become a victim of property crime. You can minimize your chances of being a victim by taking away the opportunity by following the above tips above.

References: City of Cerritos & City of Manhattan Beach, CA PD's, Sacramento Sheriff's Department



Protect yourself with information on the H1N1

**SECURE IT.
KEEP IT.**



UTSA Police Department



“Safety Highlights” by Donovan Agans (Director BCEM)

Update: H1N1 Vaccine

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention allocated an additional 454,200 H1N1 vaccine doses to Texas last week bringing the total vaccine allocation for Texas to 960,400.

Using a strategic approach to reach priority vaccine groups and subsets of those groups, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has allocated the limited supply of vaccine to providers who serve pregnant women, children ages 2-4, children ages 5-18 who are at higher risk of serious consequences should they get the flu, and health-care workers who provide direct patient care.

The 960,000 doses have been allocated to some 5,053 providers, with some of it distributed to local health departments as a

safety net to meet special needs in communities. Some 12,000 Texas providers have registered to receive the vaccine. UTSA Student Health Services has registered to receive this vaccine to distribute to students, faculty and staff. As soon as it is received, the H1N1 vaccine will be available to UTSA students, faculty and staff, according to guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

DSHS officials expect the weekly availability of the vaccine to be low for the next few weeks, adding that initial vaccine quantities are not high enough for public vaccination clinics to be held. They are urging providers and the public to be patient. Texas expects to receive 15 million doses of the vaccine by the end of January.

The UTSA Student Health Services supply of the seasonal flu vaccine is depleted and no more will be available because it is not being produced. Seasonal flu shots are still available for a reasonable cost at CVS Pharmacy, Wal-Mart, Costco and Walgreens stores. Check with a retailer for availability.

To learn more about the H1N1 or Seasonal Vaccine visit the CDC website www.flu.gov or the Texas Health and Human Services website at www.texasflu.org. These sites have been created to address Influenza related issues. Texas has also provided the 211 Hotline with 24 hour nurse operators to answer any questions or concerns. To learn more about what UTSA is doing in response to H1N1 visit the UTSA homepage and click on the “H1N1 Updates” icon.

The University of Texas at San Antonio Police Department is providing an instructional video to assist with actions that should be taken during a critical incident such as one involving “shots fired” on our campuses. This 20 minute training video demonstrates how to respond to an active shooter situation and provides critical guidance on what to do to protect yourself. Go to www.utsa.edu/utsapd/Shots_fired/Shots_Fired.html.



“Detective Time” by Sgt. Thomas Calucci (Supervisor, Criminal Investigations)

One of the things we do here at the UTSAPD Criminal Investigations Section is to work closely with outside law enforcement agencies. Lately, I have had plenty of opportunity to work with SAPD. Just last week, we assisted them with taking down several people (including two UTSA students) for committing some home invasion robberies off campus. In the past few months, we have assisted them with a high profile shooting that occurred just off campus and with some other crimes that required our assistance. I can't say enough about those officers and detectives at SAPD. I know that there are many who criticize

them, but after seeing firsthand what they can do, the bad guys should be watching their backs.

Our relationship with SAPD was not always as good as it is now. I remember many times being referred to as “campus police” by several people. This, to me, is a derogatory term. It casts an assumption that we at the UTSAPD don't know what we're doing or that we can't handle investigating certain crimes. This is not the case. Over the past few months, while meeting with members of SAPD and other law enforcement agencies, I now hear a lot of...“you guys got it going on over here...”.

I can't think of any other agency that has such a close relationship with its community like the UTSAPD. We are constantly trying different avenues to communicate with community members. We take every reported crime very seriously and put 110% into finding who did it. We put on numerous presentations to ensure the communities safety. We will help you change your flat tire. There is almost nothing we won't do to ensure your safety on this campus. That includes working with other agencies to put the bad guys where they need to be.

Schedule of Events For November

Thursday Nov. 5, 2009

Personal Safety Awareness

7:00 pm at Univ. Oaks Ph. III
This informative presentation will help you learn about personal safety

Thursday Nov. 12, 2009

Thirsty Thursdays

11:00 am at UC Paseo
Come have a thirst-quenching good time with the BARR Consultants!

Thursday Nov. 19, 2009

Women's Only Self Defense

5:00 pm at Laurel Village Center #11
This women's only self defense event will help you prepare to defend your self.

Thursday Nov. 19, 2009

Coffee With the Cops

8:00 pm at UC Starbucks
The UTSAPD Crime Prevention Unit will be at the UC Starbucks. Come have some coffee with us!



UTSAPD officers continue training to respond to any critical incident that occurs on campus. This past August, Cpl. LoBrutto and Ofc. Gallegos instructed another eight UTSA police officers in the techniques of active shooter response. The two day Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training teaches officers to safely and effectively respond to and stop an active shooter. Pictured to the left is class number 2.

Pictured L to R: Ofc. Gallegos (instructor), Ofc. Harris, Ofc. Gonzales, Ofc. Smith, Ofc. Samaniego, Ofc. Ervin, Ofc. Canull, Cpl. Carter, Cpl. LoBrutto (Instructor), Ofc. Cano

Lost and Found

All found property that is turned in to the University Police Lost & Found section is stored at the University Police Lost & Found for 60 days. After 60 days, the found property is transferred to the Surplus Property Department for public auctions or further disposition.

To report lost property items or to make inquiries regarding lost property call 210.458.4242 (24 hours a day). To claim found property items, individuals must present a valid Texas Driver's license, UTSA photo ID card or a valid photo ID card from another source; military ID or another state photo ID card. Individuals must be able to accurately describe the property that was lost in order to claim property from the lost & found section.

The below listed items are currently being held by UTSAPD. If not claimed in 30 days, they will be disposed of in accordance with policy.



Qty	Item	Description	Qty	Item	Description
28	BIKES	VARIOUS BRANDS	1	TX DL	BELONGING TO JOHN RAMOS
13	CELL PHONES	VARIOUS BRANDS	1	TX DL	BELONGING TO MARY RAMIREZ
34	BOOKS	VARIOUS TITLES	1	TX DL	BELONGING TO DANIELLE JASMINE
131	ELECTRONICS	VARIOUS ITEMS	1	TX DL	BELONGING TO ATIYAH S-REED ALI
17	CALCULATORS	VARIOUS BRANDS	1	TX DL	BELONGING TO ANGELA OROSCO
23	JEWELRY	VARIOUS PIECES	1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO APRIL LERMA
2	WALLET		1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO ROCHELLE R PETERMAN
35	SETS OF KEYS/HOLDER		1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO ATIYAH ALI
58	SUNGLASSES/READING GLASSES	VARIOUS BRANDS	1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO JOSE A MEDELLIN
4	EYE GLASS CASE		1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO ANDREW PALMER
5	BACK PACK/BOOK BAG		1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO JOHN BEAKLEY
18	UMBRELLA		1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO MATHIAS C OMETU
31	NOTEBOOKS	SPIRAL, BINDERS	1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO FAISAL SAMIR ZAMKA
30	CLOTHING/PERSONAL ITEMS	JACKETS, SHOES, BELT, CAPS	1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO ELIZABETH BENAVIDEZ
2	LUNCH BAGS		1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO SARAH THOMPSON
1	PAPER WORK	BELONGING TO KEVIN B GRIFFIS	1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO PROCTOR D SHERWIN
1	PAPER WORK	BELONGING TO FRANK SCOTT	1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO JENNIFER N STEPHENS
1	PAPER WORK	BELONGING TO VRIEL VILLARREAL	1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO JEANNA M CUELLAR
1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO DOUGLAS FRENCHAK	1	ID CARD	BELONGING TO JEROMY E GILBANE
1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO MANUEL PEREZ	1	ID CARD	BELONGING TO ANN TAYLOR
1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO ANGELA M RAMOS	1	ID CARD	BELONGING TO JENEVIEVE MATA
1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO ROXANNA ORTEGA	1	PAPERWORK	BELONGING TO GUSTAVO GARCIA
1	BANK CARD	BELONGING TO ANDREW C SCOTT	5	PENCIL/PEN CASE	
1	CARNIVAL CARD	BELONGING TO LING YANG	1	KNIVES	
1	TX DL	BELONGING TO KIMBERLY CHUDE	1	GUITAR STAND	
1	TX DL	BELONGING TO PRESTON JONES	1	AX/PICK	
1	TX DL	BELONGING TO GENEVIE RAMIREZ			



Communication is key when dealing with conflict. (Photo from www.eweb.lanl.gov)

Acting Chief Pena

says:

Thanks to

Access Services staff

(Helen White, Henry

Verde, Tomas

Fuentes, Mike

Staabman and Dave

De Los Santos) for all

their hard work in

completing the

keying and

programming for the

new AET building.



Acting Chief of Police
Dan Pena

Dealing With Roommate Conflicts: Communication is Key

Heavy metal at 3 a.m. Underwear hanging in the living room. Stacks of dirty dishes. Persistently late rent payments. A non-tenant who keeps his bike in the bathroom. Whatever your conflict, good communication is the cleanest way to handle it.

During your talk, treat your roommate as you would want to be treated if you were the one perceived as having a problem. Assume that she/he isn't a sociopath just because she/he has a habit you find hard to live with. Even bad tempers are often a sign of fear or insecurity; adding to her/his problem will probably just add to yours.

Be tactful, be even-tempered, but

be clear. Your roommate can't very well change her/his attitude if you skirt around the problem. Be concrete about what you would like to see change; a vague "You bug me so bad" won't give her/him much to strive for. Ideally, they'll come away with enough self-respect that they'll want to try harder.

To help prevent a blamefest, talk about how you feel rather than what your roomie is doing "wrong." For example, "I'm afraid we'll lose our apartment if I can't cover the full rent when you're late" is easier to swallow than "You always wait until the first of the month to make excuses about money." (Hint: Unless you want to start a fight, beginning a sentence with "You

always" is always a bad idea.)

Remember, conflict is an inevitable part of most interpersonal relationships and is best viewed as a problem to be resolved. The key to conflict resolution is not to avoid conflict when it arises but to recognize it and manage it effectively in order to produce the best possible outcome. By first identifying the source of the problem and then engaging in the use of appropriate problem solving skills, anyone can become effective at resolving roommate conflict. Contact the UTSA Counseling Center at 210.458.4140 for additional assistance.

Reference: The Complete Campus Crime Prevention Manual, <http://lifestyle.msn.com/> & Southern Illinois University Counseling Center web site.



Happy Thanksgiving to all UTSA students, faculty and staff from the UTSA Police Department!



Chief's Corner By Acting Chief Dan Pena

Last month in the "Detectives Time" section of the Runner Beat, Sergeant Calucci mentioned that he was working on a couple of bicycle theft cases. Since that time we have had a number of additional bicycle thefts reported. One of the difficult things about catching a bicycle thief is when a thief steals your bike they are also providing themselves with a getaway vehicle.

How do you catch a bicycle thief? Unless you catch them in the act of cutting your chain or cable lock it is a very difficult process. A bicycle thief can look just like everyone else on the street riding a bicycle. They usually carry some type of cutting tool in their pocket or possibly in a backpack. In some of our investigations we have discovered that some of them are actually older than the usual student and they are known to walk around our residential areas looking for their next bike to steal.

What are they looking for? They look for a name brand bicycle that will provide a return worth the risk of stealing it. They also look for those with a cheap lock so they

can defeat it easily and quickly. The last thing a bike thief wants to do is spend 10 minutes trying to defeat your bike lock as that will increase their chance of being detected. Here are a couple of quick rules to help prevent a thief from stealing your bike.

#1. Always lock your bike even if you will be gone for just a couple of minutes. We have security surveillance footage showing a bike thief cutting the lock and riding off in 9 seconds!

#2. Buy a good lock, not a cheap one. It is all too tempting to buy that \$5.00 cable lock for your \$100.00 bike, but if you want to keep your bike, spend the addition \$10.00 and get a good U-Lock.

#3. Lock your bike to a permanent object and run the lock through the frame and front or rear wheel of the bike. If you only run the lock through your front wheel and the bike is equipped with a quick-release hub, you will find your front wheel and lock laying on the ground the next day.

#4. Record the serial number of your bicycle. It is usually located

under the crank on the bottom of the frame. This number is critical to identifying your bicycle from one of the other 100's of that brand out on the street. The police department offers a free registration program which keeps a record of your bikes identifiers in case it is stolen. This increases your odds of recovering your bike.

#5. Be observant. If you live in one of the residential areas be alert to suspicious individuals hanging around bike racks. If they appear out-of-place and keep looking around, call the police immediately - you may be preventing a theft.

If your bicycle is stolen, report it to the police immediately. The longer you wait the colder the trail gets. You can also register your bike on the National Bike Registry at www.nationalbikeregistry.com While registering your bike won't keep it from being stolen, it greatly aids in its return to you if it is recovered by the police. Bicycles are a great way to get around campus. Help us to help you prevent your bike from becoming the next target of a bicycle thief.